

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraph 26 as follows:

As shown in FIG. 2, air is directed through a filter 58 of the filter assembly 48, and then passes through one or more orifices (also referred to as a gas washout vent) in the calibration cap 56 to atmosphere.

Please amend paragraph 29 as follows:

FIG. 5 illustrates a second embodiment of the present invention which differs from the embodiment of FIG. 2 in regard to the vent assembly 48. In FIG. 5, the vent assembly 48 is commercially available from Pall, Part No. BB25A. Vent assembly 48 includes a plug 60 and a vent port 62 (also referred to as a gas washout vent) which in this embodiment is preferably uncapped. In FIG. 5, the T-shaped joint 38 also has a slightly different configuration in that the outlet 46 is a female part rather than a male part.

Please amend paragraph 30 as follows:

FIG. 6 illustrates a third embodiment of the present invention which has another configuration. In particular, the mask assembly includes an elbow joint 38 rather than a T-shaped joint which is available from Intersurgical, Part No. 1992. The elbow joint 38 is connected to filter assembly 48 which is similar to that shown in FIG. 2. The filter assembly 48 in turn is connected to an in-line vent 65 (also referred to as a gas washout vent) commercially available from ResMed Limited, Part No. 17921. As indicated by the arrows A in FIG. 6, exhaust is achieved via in-line vent 64. In other words, gas or CO₂ gas exhaled by the patient passes

through the elbow joint 38 and filter assembly 48 and is then exhausted via in-line vent 64
following filtering in the filter assembly 48.